

## ABSTRACT

5 A main information area 31 capable of recording an information signal  
and a subsidiary information area 32 for recording subsidiary information  
that is different from the information signal are divided in one principal plane  
direction of a substrate, and an information layer for recording the  
information signal in the main information area 31 is provided also in the  
subsidiary information area 32, and medium identification information for  
distinguishing the medium optically is recorded in the information layer of the  
10 subsidiary information area 32 without changing the shape of the information  
layer. As a result, the medium identification information can be recorded in  
an optical recording medium 1 stably. In particular, the initialization of a  
phase change type optical recording medium and the recording of the medium  
identification information can be performed at the same time, so that the  
15 production process can be simplified, and the production costs can be reduced.